

Docket Number: 081468-0305146

Client Reference: P-1585.000-US



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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

ANTONIUS JOHANNUS VAN DER NET, et al. Group Art Unit: 2851

Application No.: 10/623,180

Examiner: Rodney Evan Fuller

Filed: July 21, 2003

Confirmation No.: 4722

For: LITHOGRAPHIC PROJECTION APPARATUS, GAS PURGING METHOD AND DEVICE
MANUFACTURING METHOD AND PURGE GAS SUPPLY SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

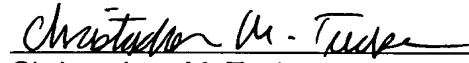
Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicant with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign written opinion is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully Submitted,
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